

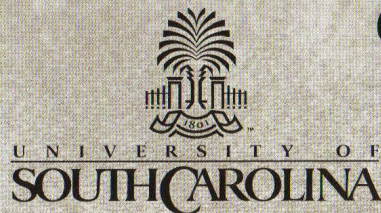
2002



*South Carolina*  
**African  
American**  
*History Calendar*

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South Carolina  
Department of Education  
Meeting Challenges, Celebrating Achievements







# Charles and Valerie Aiken

*"In conducting the affairs of their family business, the Aikens are an embodiment of strong family values and dedicated service to their clients and the community."*

Charles and Valerie Aiken, owners of the only African American licensed, Medicare-certified Home Health Agency in South Carolina, are the embodiment of strong family values and dedicated service to the community. Their 20-year career in Home Health Care Services includes seven offices in South Carolina and one in Augusta, Georgia.

Valerie Aiken was initially exposed to the Home Care Industry in 1981, inspired by her mother's own 30-year career as a home care worker. She knew then that this would be her lifelong career and finds it rewarding when "you enable persons to recover in the comfort of their own home, and they tell you that you are a blessing from God." Valerie is guided by the belief that "you must be able to immerse yourself in the culture of the client you are caring for and manage the service you provide within that culture."

Charles Aiken began his career in television broadcasting at WLTX-TV where he was one of the first African American news anchors in Columbia. After moving to WIS-TV where he worked as a reporter/anchor and executive producer, he left television in 1988 to join his wife in the home health business.

The couple met while attending the University of South Carolina. Together, they have earned a number of "firsts" and personal and professional accomplishments. Among their numerous awards and recognition for community service, including Valerie's YWCA's twin award, the Girl Scouts of America's Trailblazer Award, the Madame C.J. Walker Award for Entrepreneurship and the Local Executive Director of the Year Award, the couple most cherishes the Outstanding Families of the Year nomination they received at the National Black Family Summit.

They are the proud parents of two daughters and one adopted daughter, and surrogate parents to several nieces and nephews. Valerie, the first African American to win Dreher High School's pageant, has passed this legacy on to her daughters. Kirsten Aiken, the younger daughter, is a former Miss Spelman College. Kimberly Aiken was the first African American to win Miss South Carolina in 1993, and later won the big one as she was crowned Miss America in 1994.

The couple's legacy to their family and community is their belief that service is more than helping others; it is making life-long connections and establishing direct relationships with those whom you serve. They believe that this is how to get a better grasp of the community and 'how you are a part of it, and in doing so, take pride in what you do.'



# 2007

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# January

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	<b>1</b> <b>New Years Day</b>  Emancipation Proclamation issued in 1863.	<b>2</b>  William Lloyd Garrison began publishing The Liberator, an abolitionist newspaper, in 1831.	<b>3</b>  Adam Clayton Powell, Jr. was elected chairperson of the House Committee on Education and Labor in 1961.	<b>4</b>  Grace Bumbry, opera singer, was born in 1937.	<b>5</b>  George Washington Carver died in 1943.	<b>6</b>  The World Anti-Slavery Convention opened in London, 1831. John Birks "Dizzy" Gillespie, famed musician, died in 1993.
<b>7</b>  Marian Anderson made her debut in the Metropolitan Opera House in 1955.	<b>8</b>  Fannie M. Jackson, educator and first African American woman college graduate in the US, was born in 1836. Butterfly McQueen, actress, born in 1911.	<b>9</b>  Fisk University established in 1866	<b>10</b>  Southern Christian Leadership Conference founded in 1957.	<b>11</b>  Charles W. Anderson becomes first African American member of the Kentucky Legislature in 1936.	<b>12</b>  The Congressional Black Caucus organized in 1971.	<b>13</b>  Don Barksdale became first African-American person to play in an NBA All-Star Game in 1953
<b>14</b>  John Oliver Killens, novelist, was born in 1916.	<b>15</b> <b>Martin Luther King Jr. Day</b>  Martin Luther King, Jr. was born in 1929.	<b>16</b>  Jefferson Franklin Long took oath of office as first African American Congressman from Georgia, 1871.	<b>17</b>  Cassius Clay (Muhammad Ali) born in 1942.	<b>18</b>  Robert C. Weaver became first African American presidential cabinet member, 1966.	<b>19</b>  Freed Blacks organized Savannah, GA's first Baptist church in 1788.	<b>20</b>  Barbara Jordan, congresswoman, was born in 1936.
<b>21</b>  William Brown-Chappell, pioneer aviator, was born in 1906.	<b>22</b>  Nat Turner, leader of the Virginia slave revolt, was born in 1800.	<b>23</b>  Dr. Daniel Hale Williams, pioneer in surgery, founded Provident Hospital in Chicago, IL, in 1889	<b>24</b>  Coach Clarence "Big House" Gaines won record 800th college basketball game in 1990.	<b>25</b>  Sojourner Truth addressed the first Black Women's Rights Convention, 1851.	<b>26</b>  Bessie Coleman, first African American woman aviator, born in 1893. Angela Davis, activist, born in 1944	<b>27</b>  Leontyne Price, world-renowned opera singer, made her debut at the Metropolitan Opera House, 1961.
<b>28</b>  Astronaut Ronald McNair died in Challenger explosion in 1986.	<b>29</b>  Oprah Winfrey born in 1954.	<b>30</b>  William Wells Brown, novelist and dramatist, published first Black drama, Leap to Freedom, 1858.	<b>31</b>  Jackie Robinson, first African American baseball player in the major leagues, was born in 1919.			



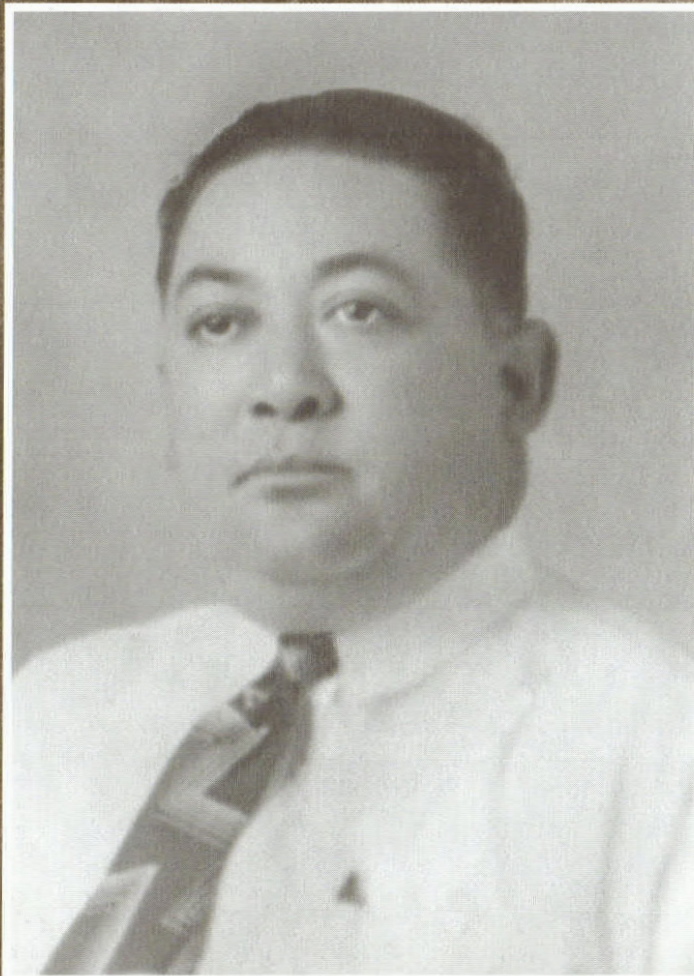
## George A. Elmore

*"He filed the successful lawsuit that established the legal precedent that allowed African Americans the right to vote in the Democratic Primary in South Carolina."*

George A. Elmore was a civil rights pioneer who won the right for African Americans to vote in the Democratic primary. In 1946 he challenged the Democratic Party for the right to vote in its all white primary. He filed a lawsuit in the Federal District Court for the Eastern District of South Carolina in a landmark case known as *Elmore v. Rice*. His legal team, led by Thurgood Marshall, who subsequently became a United States Supreme Court Justice, also included Robert L. Carter and Harold R. Boulware.

Elmore's successful lawsuit established a legal precedent in 1947. United States District Judge Waites Waring ruled that the Democratic Party of South Carolina could no longer exclude qualified Negroes from participating in primary elections. The case is cited in the United States District for the Eastern District of South Carolina, Columbia Division (72 F. Supp. 516; 1947 U.S. Dist.—July 12, 1947).

A businessman and photographer, George Elmore was born on March 31, 1905 in Holly Hill, South Carolina, and grew up and completed his public school education in Harleyville. He moved to Columbia in 1922, met and married the former Laura Belle Delaney. The Elmore family was subjected to violent reactions by the Ku Klux Klan and endured economic hardship as a result of the lawsuit. Mr. Elmore died on February 25, 1959. His wife died on June 19, 1993. The family donated all documents and memorabilia related to George Elmore's life and the historical civil rights case to the University of South Carolina.





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# February

Sunday

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

Saturday

				1 Langston Hughes was born in 1902.	2 Ernest E. Just, biologist, received the Spingarn Medal for pioneering research on fertilization and cell division, 1914.	3 Geraldine McCullough won the Widener Gold Medal for Sculpture in 1965.
4 Rosa Parks was born in 1913.	5 Henry "Hank" Aaron, the home run king of major league baseball, was born in 1934.	6 Jonathan Jasper Wright elected to South Carolina Supreme Court in 1870.	7 Eubie Blake, pianist, was born in 1883.	8 Oprah Winfrey became the first African American woman to host a nationally syndicated talk show in 1986.	9 In 1995 Bernard Harris became the first African American astronaut to take a spacewalk.	10 Roberta Flack, singer, was born in 1940.
11 Clifford Alexander, Jr., became the first African American Secretary of the Army in 1977.	12 Abraham Lincoln was born in 1809. Congress enacted the first fugitive slave law in 1793.	13 Joseph L. Searles became the first African American member of the New York Stock Exchange, 1970.	14 Valentine's Day Frederick Douglass was born in 1817.	15 Henry Lewis was named director of the New Jersey Symphony in 1968.	16 Joe Frazier became World Heavyweight Boxing Champion by a knockout in 1970.	17 Michael Jordan, basketball player, born in 1963.
18 Author Toni Morrison (born Chloe Anthony Wofford) was born in 1931.	19 President's Day William "Smoky" Robinson was born in 1940.	20 Frederick Douglass died in 1895.	21 Ash Wednesday Malcolm X was assassinated in 1965.	22 George Washington was born in 1732. Julius Winfield "Dr. J." Erving was born in 1950.	23 W.E.B. DuBois born in 1868.	24 In 1864, Rebecca Lee became the first African American woman to receive an M.D. degree.
25 Cassius Clay (Muhammad Ali) won World Heavyweight crown in 1964.	26 Singer "Fats" Domino was born in 1928.	27 Marian Anderson, opera singer, was born in 1902.	28 Richard Wright's Native Son published in 1940.	Leap Years, February 29: Hattie McDaniel became the first black (male or female) to win an Oscar (for Best Supporting Actress) for her role as Mammy in Gone With The Wind in 1940.		



# Lydia Sharon Garrett

*"A gifted actress, stand-up comedian, motivational speaker"*

Lydia Sharon Garrett is one of South Carolina's nationally acclaimed African American entertainers. The Columbia native is a gifted actor, comedian, interpretive dancer and motivational speaker.

Garrett was born in Columbia, South Carolina. A graduate of Johnson C. Smith University in Charlotte, North Carolina, earning a B.A. degree in Mass Communications, has allowed her opportunities to specialize in both television and public relations.

Her television credits include "A Different World," "Days of Our Lives," "The Steve Harvey Show," "All My Children," and "The Tonight Show with Jay Leno." She has opened for such acts and events as Gospel Rap, Mike E, the Williams Brothers, the Clark Sisters, and hosted "The Gospel Day on City Walk" at Universal Studios in Hollywood, California. Her trademark is making audiences laugh in Los Angeles comedy clubs such as the Comedy Underground, the Comedy Store, the Ice House and is currently playing at the Famed, Ha' Ha' Comedy Club in North Hollywood, California. Her stand up comedy and motivational speaking takes her to various high schools, colleges and churches, corporate and charitable events; bringing both laughter and inspiration to the young and the old.

A talented dancer, Garrett's specialization is Christian Interpretation. In 1984, she was crowned the seventeenth Miss Black America. She is also a member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority. Other credits include Miss Fashion Columbia, South Carolina, Miss Black Columbia, South Carolina, and Miss Homecoming, C.A. Johnson High School. She was also named to Who's Who Among Students in American Colleges and Universities.





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# March

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 Writer Ralph Ellison was born in 1914	2 Dr. Jerome H. Holland elected to the board of directors of the New York Stock Exchange in 1972.	3 Carole Gist was crowned first Black Miss USA in 1990.
4 Garrett A. Morgan, scientist and inventor, was born in 1877.	5 Blanche Kelso Bruce of Mississippi elected to full term in U.S. Senate in 1975.	6 Dred Scott decision handed down by Supreme Court in 1857.	7 First cadets graduated from flying school at Tuskegee Institute in 1942.	8 Senate refuses to seat P.B.S. Pinchback of Louisiana in 1876.	9 Clifton Wharton is sworn in as ambassador to Norway in 1961.	10 Harriet Tubman died in 1913.
11 Daylight Savings Time Begins Lorraine Hansberry play, "Raisin in the Sun", opened on Broadway in 1959.	12 Andrew Young was born in 1932.	13 Fannie Lou Hamer, activist, dies, 1977.	14 Quincy Jones, composer and musician, was born in 1933.	15 'Los Angeles Sentinel' founded by Leon H. Washington in 1933.	16 'Freedom's Journal' founded in 1827.	17 St. Patrick's Day Jackie Robinson made his professional baseball debut with the Montreal Royals in 1946.
18 Charlie Pride, country singer, was born in 1938.	19 Nat King Cole was born in 1919.	20 First Day of Spring 'Uncle Tom's Cabin' by Harriet Beecher Stowe was published in 1852.	21 Selma march began in 1965.	22 Marcus Garvey, Black nationalist, arrived in America from Jamaica, 1916.	23 NBA star, Karl "The Mailman" Malone was born in 1954.	24 AME Zion Church organized in S.C. in 1867.
25 Poll Tax ruled unconstitutional in 1966.	26 William H. Hastie confirmed as Federal District Judge of the Virgin Islands in 1937.	27 Arthur Mitchell, dancer and choreographer, was born in 1934.	28 Slavery abolished in New York in 1799.	29 Pearl Bailey was born in 1918.	30 15th Amendment was enacted in 1870.	31 Jack Johnson, first Black heavyweight champion was born in 1878.



# Patricia Sowell Harris

*"The best accomplishment one can receive is to be asked to serve and give back to the community."*

Although she grew up in the small town of McBee, SC, Patricia (Pat) Sowell Harris has expanded her sphere of influence in her role as Global Chief Diversity Officer for McDonald's Corporation in Oak Brook, Illinois, a suburb of Chicago. An accomplished diversity professional, Harris leads a team responsible for the development and implementation of diversity and inclusion strategies for McDonald's worldwide. During her 30-year tenure at the company, Harris said she has developed a passion for her work in corporate diversity. "It is a rewarding commitment, both personally and professionally," she said.

Harris has also received individual recognition for her diversity work: the National Restaurant Association's Salute to Excellence Award and induction into their 2006 Hall of Diplomats; the Chitrah Cultural Academy's Unity Award, Roosevelt University's Harold Washington Professional Achievement Award, *Working Mother* magazine's designation as one of the Top 10 Diversity Champions in the Country, the Phenomenal Woman Award from Today's Expo for Black Women, The Youth Achievement Award by 100 Black Men of Chicago, and the King Legacy Award by the Chicago, YMCA. McDonald's President presented Harris with the Eagle Award, and named its annual award for the McDonald's officer with the highest diversity achievements, the "Pat Harris Diversity Award."

Because of Harris' leadership, McDonald's has received media and civic recognition for its diversity efforts. *Fortune* magazine cited the company two years in a row as the No. 1 Company for Diversity. Other magazines honoring the company's diversity achievements include *Essence*, *Hispanic Business*, *Latina Style*, and *Black Enterprise*, which also named McDonald's as the top diversity company two years in a row. The company received the EEOC's "2006 Freedom to Compete Award."

Harris believes the "best accomplishment one can receive is to be asked to serve and give back to the community." She does just that as the chair of the NAACP ACT-SO Advisory Council, board president of the Y-Me National Breast Cancer Organization, board and founding member of the Multicultural Foodservice and Hospitality Alliance, board member of DePaul University's Business and Ethics Committee, the International Franchise Association's Diversity Institute and the co-chair of the Rainbow/PUSH EXCEL board of directors.

Harris resides in Chicago, Illinois, has one son, Dwayne, and a granddaughter, Cydnei who reside in Oak Park, Illinois.





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# April

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>1</b> <b>Palm Sunday</b>  Hampton Institute opened in 1868.	<b>2</b> <b>Passover Begins at sunset</b>  John Thompson became the first African American coach to win NCAA basketball tournament, 1984.	<b>3</b>  Carter G. Woodson, the father of African American history, died in 1950.	<b>4</b>  Maya Angelou, author and poet, was born in 1928.	<b>5</b> <b>Maundy Thursday</b>  Colin Powell was born in 1937.	<b>6</b> <b>Good Friday</b>  Robert E. Perry and Matthew Henson reached the North Pole in 1909.	<b>7</b>  Billie Holliday, blues singer, was born in 1917.
<b>8</b> <b>Easter</b>  Hank Aaron hit his 715th home run in 1974.	<b>9</b>  Civil Rights Bill granting citizenship passed in 1866.	<b>10</b>  Richard Allen was made Bishop of the AME Church in 1916.	<b>11</b>  Spelman College was founded in 1881.	<b>12</b>  Free African Society organized in 1787.	<b>13</b>  Thomas Jefferson's birthday	<b>14</b>  The first abolition society in the U.S. was founded in Pennsylvania, 1775.
<b>15</b>  Jackie Robinson made his Major League debut with the Brooklyn Dodgers in 1947.	<b>16</b>  Founding of Student Non-Violent Coordinating Committee in 1960.	<b>17</b>  Rev. Ralph David Abernathy died in 1990.	<b>18</b>  Alex Haley won the Pulitzer Prize for Roots, 1977.	<b>19</b>  Cheyney State College, one of the oldest Black colleges in the U.S., was founded in 1837.	<b>20</b>  Harriet Tubman started working on the Underground Railroad, 1853.	<b>21</b> <b>Secretaries Day</b>  Pvt. Milton L. Olive, III, was posthumously awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor in 1966.
<b>22</b>  Charles Mingus, bassist, composer, pianist and bandleader, was born in 1922.	<b>23</b>  Granville T. Woods, inventor of over 40 products, was born in 1856.	<b>24</b>  The United Negro College Fund was established in 1944.	<b>25</b>  Ella Fitzgerald, singer, was born in 1917.	<b>26</b>  William "Count" Basie, jazz pianist and musician, died in 1984.	<b>27</b>  Coretta Scott King, activist and wife of Martin Luther King, was born in 1927.	<b>28</b>  Samuel L. Gravely became first African American admiral in the U.S. Navy in 1962.
<b>29</b>  "Duke" Ellington, musician and composer, was born in 1899.	<b>30</b>  Wallace Saunders wrote the song "Casey Jones" in 1900.					



# Chuck Jackson

*"His latest CD, "I'll Never Get Over You," received a Grammy nomination..."*

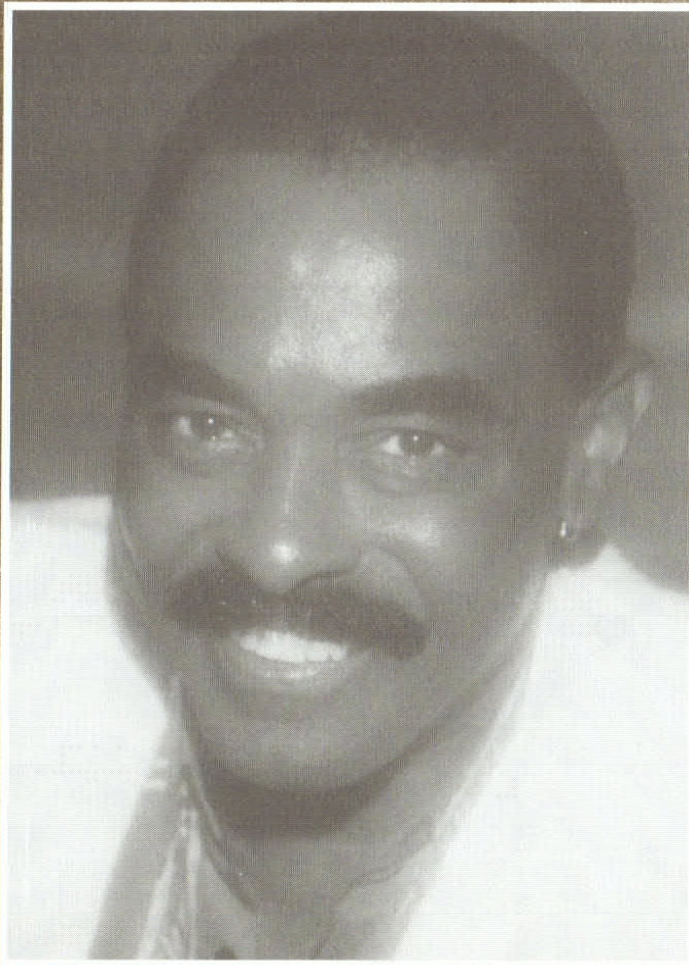
Charles Benjamin (Chuck) Jackson was named a Friar in New York City's prestigious Friars Club, in such company as Harry Belafonte, Sammy Davis, Jr., and Frank Sinatra. That's not surprising for Jackson, the master showman, who adds this 2006 honor to a long list of accomplishments. He grew up in Latta, South Carolina and attended South Carolina State University on the first music scholarship ever awarded by the university.

Jackson developed his musical talent under the tutelage of the university's music department chairman, and early mentors Ellen Simmons and Clyde Toomer. After campus riots of the 1950s forced him to leave South Carolina State, Jackson pursued a successful music career in Pittsburgh, singing lead baritone with the Del-Vikings of "Come Go With Me," fame, writing and recording his first hit, "I Don't Want to Cry," and gaining fame singing a Bacharach-Hilliard tune, "Any Day Now." That song placed Jackson among the top five male R&B and Pop singers in the world. It was one of the biggest hits of the era and among the most enduring songs in popular music in the latter half of the 20<sup>th</sup> century.

He has sung for U.S. presidents and governors. He sang the National Anthem at Yankee Stadium for the playoff game that led to the World Series, and at charity events. His latest CD, "I'll Never Get Over You," received a Grammy nomination for Best Duet with Dionne Warwick for the song, "If I Let Myself Go."

Among Jackson's honors and awards during his illustrious career are his induction into the New York City's Apollo Theatre Hall of Fame, for headlining more shows in one year than any other performer, designation as an American Treasure of the Smithsonian Institution, induction in the National Black Sports and Entertainment Hall of Fame for Cultural Achievement, the Motown Heroes and Legends Award, the Community Works, Inc. Award from the "Harlem Is...Music" project for contributions to Harlem's musical history, and the Anhauser Busch Eagle Award for Living Legends. He is also included in the book, "The Top Twenty Who's Who in New York City."

No ordinary singer, Jackson is also an accomplished producer, having produced such 'musical giants' as Smokey Robinson, Stevie Wonder, The Four Tops, The Temptations, Freddie Jackson and Regina Belle, Tom Jones, Michael McDonald, and Boys 2 Men. He has also produced gala and charitable events, including performances at City College of New York's Aaron Davis Hall featuring Dionne Warwick, Luther Vandross, Nancy Wilson, Maya Angelou, Yolanda Adams, and Isaac Hayes.





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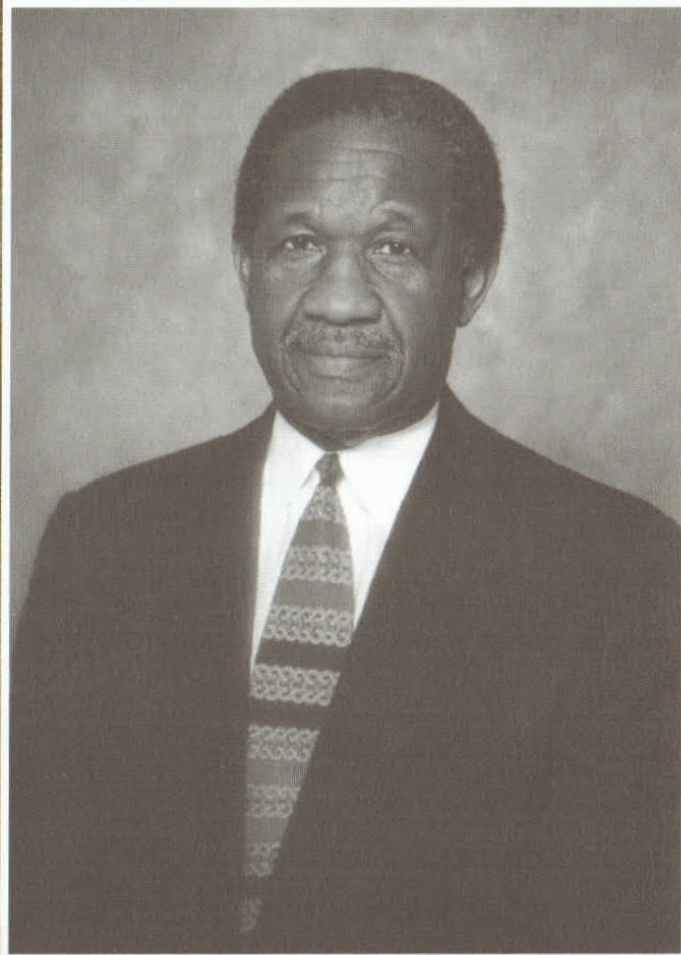
## South Carolina African American History Calendar

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# May

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 Howard University in Washington, D.C. opened in 1867.	2 Elijah McCoy, inventor and holder of more than fifty patents, was born in 1844.	3 Sugar Ray Robinson, middleweight boxing champion, was born in 1920.	4 Freedom Rides began in 1961.	5 Gwendolyn Brooks became the first Black Pulitzer Prize winner for Annie Allen in 1950.
6 Civil Rights Act signed by President Eisenhower in 1960.	7 J.R. Winters patented the fire escape, 1878.	8 Rev. Henry McNeal Turner died in 1915.	9 Slaves in Georgia, Florida and South Carolina were freed, 1862.	10 P.B.S. Pinchback, first Black state governor, was born in 1837.	11 Dancer Martha Graham was born in 1854.	12 Robert Smalls seized Confederate warship in 1862.
13 <b>Mother's Day</b> Boxer Joe Louis was born in 1914.	14 In 1804, a slave known only as York accompanied Lewis and Clark on their expedition.	15 Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, founded at Indiana University, was incorporated in 1911.	16 Sammy Davis Jr. died in 1990.	17 <b>Ascension Day</b> Brown vs. Board of Education made "Separate But Equal" in public schools unconstitutional in 1954.	18 Reggie Jackson, baseball player, was born in 1946.	19 Malcolm X was born in 1925.
20 Robert N.C. Nix was elected to U.S. Congress in 1958.	21 Lowell W. Perry was confirmed as chairman of the Equal Opportunity Commission (EEOC) in 1975.	22 Claude McKay, poet, died in 1948.	23 Bob Marley, reggae legend, died in 1981.	24 Hal McRae was named manager of the Kansas City Royals in 1991.	25 Madame C.J. Walker, entrepreneur, died in 1919.	26 Althea Gibson won the French Open, becoming the first Black tennis player to win a major tennis title, 1956.
27 <b>Memorial Day</b> Louis Gossett Jr., actor, was born in 1936.	28 Eliza Ann Gardner, Underground Railroad conductor was born in 1831.	29 Thomas Bradley was elected mayor of Los Angeles in 1973.	30 Countee Cullen, poet, was born in 1903.	31 NAACP held first conference (as the National Negro Committee) in 1909.		





## Senator John Wesley Matthews, Jr.

*"The senior Senator from Orangeburg County has led the fight for economic development, job creation and education in the State of South Carolina, particularly in the counties of District 39..."*

A Senate Resolution was unanimously adopted in 2004 to authorize the commissioning of a portrait of the Honorable John Wesley Matthews, Jr., to be placed in the South Carolina Senate Chamber to honor a distinguished statesman deserving of proper recognition by the State of South Carolina. The South Carolina native and alumnus of South Carolina State University, is proud of his service to the state, and rightfully so.

Before he served as a member of the House of Representatives from 1975 through 1984, and as a State Senator since 1985, Senator Matthews previously served as teacher and administrator in the public school system and as a small business owner. This background would prepare him for his distinguished and dedicated public service, as he served on House and Senate committees to improve education and the economic welfare of every citizen of South Carolina. He has led the fight for economic development, job creation and education in the State of South Carolina, and particularly in the counties of District 39, Bamberg, Colleton, Dorchester, Hampton and Orangeburg. He serves on the Senate Education, Finance, Banking and Insurance, Rules, Ethics and Invitations Committees.

Senator Matthews has earned the respect of his colleagues in both the House and Senate. He serves as Chairman of the Orangeburg County Legislative Delegation, a member of the Southern Regional Education Board, the Governor's Middle Grades Task Force, and a former Chairman of the South Carolina Legislative Black Caucus. In 2004 Orangeburg County Council designated the 500 or more acre site located at the South East Quadrant of U.S. 301-176 Highway in Orangeburg County as the John W. Matthews Industrial Park.

His service has garnered recognition and numerous awards, including the Distinguished Alumni Award, South Carolina State University; Orangeburg County Democrat of the Year; Minority Business Advocate of the Year, U.S. Small Business Administration; induction in the South Carolina Black Hall of Fame; South Carolina Primary Health Care Legislator of the Year; an Honorary Doctorate from the College of Charleston, and an Honorary Doctorate from South Carolina State University.

He has served as a member of the South Carolina Education Association, Orangeburg County Education Association, Clemson University Board of Visitors, Medical University of South Carolina Board of Visitors, Winthrop University Board of Visitors, Human Affairs Commission, Voorhees College Board of Trustees, South Carolina State University Board of Trustees, Claflin University Capital Campaign Steering Committee, and the Education Oversight Committee.

Senator Matthews received both his undergraduate and graduate degrees from South Carolina University. He is married to the former Geraldine Hillard of Santee, South Carolina, and they are the proud parents of five children.



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# June

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
					Sojourner Truth began anti-slavery activist career in 1843.	T. Thomas Fortune, journalist, died in 1928.
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Wesley A. Brown became the first Black graduate of Annapolis Naval Academy in 1949.	Arna Bontemps, writer and educator, died in 1973.	In 1955, Martin Luther King Jr. was awarded his doctorate from Boston University.	Congress of Racial Equality founded in 1942.	Pulitzer Prize winning poet Gwendolyn Brooks was born in 1917.	Supreme Court banned segregation in Washington, D.C. restaurants in 1953.	Meta-Vaux Warick Fuller, sculptor, was born in 1877.
10	11	12	13	14 <b>Flag Day</b>	15	16
Hattie McDaniel, first Black person to win an Oscar (for Best Supporting Actress in 'Gone With The Wind,' (1940), was born in 1898.	Hazel Dorothy Scott, classical pianist and singer, was born in 1920.	Medger Evers, civil rights activist, was assassinated in 1963.	Thurgood Marshall appointed to U.S. Supreme Court in 1967.	Harold D. West was named president of Meharry Medical College, 1952.	Errol Garner, singer and musician, was born in 1923.	Denmark Vesey led slave rebellion in South Carolina in 1822.
17 <b>Father's Day</b>	18	19	20	21 <b>First Day of Summer</b>	22	23
Thomas Ezekiel Miller, congressman, was born in 1849.	Nannie Burroughs founded National Training School for Women, 1909.	Tennessee University opens as Tennessee A&T State College in 1912.	Dr. Lloyd A. Hall, pioneer in food chemistry, was born in 1894.	Arthur Ashe, tennis champion, led UCLA to NCAA tennis championship, 1965.	Joe Louis became youngest world heavyweight boxing champion in 1937.	Track star Wilma Rudolph was born in 1909.
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
John R. Lynch became first African American to preside over deliberations of a national political party in 1884.	Joe Louis defeated Primo Carnera at Yankee Stadium in 1935.	James Weldon Johnson died in 1938.	Paul Laurence Dunbar, poet and novelist, was born in 1873.	Organization for Afro-American Unity founded in 1964.	James Van Der Zee, photographer, was born in Lenox, MA in 1886.	Lena Horne, actress, vocalist and activist, was born in 1917.



## Alex Snipe, Jr.

*"South Carolina Broadcasters Association Hall of Fame Inductee; broadcaster and community servant; 24-year broadcast veteran; owner and operator of more than eight South Carolina radio stations."*

In January 2006, Alex Snipe, Jr., a pioneering owner and operator of eight radio stations and community servant in South Carolina, was inducted into the South Carolina Broadcasters Association (SCBA) Hall of Fame. His portrait is one of two African Americans and 27 broadcasters who line the wall of the SCBA Hall of Fame currently housed in the University of South Carolina's School of Journalism and Mass Communications in the Carolina Coliseum.

Snipe is president of Glory Communications, Inc., which owns and operates radio stations WFMV-FM, WGCV-AM, Columbia, WLJI-FM, Sumter, WSPPX-AM/FM, Orangeburg, WALD-AM, Walterboro, WEAJ-AM, Camden and WPDT-FM, Florence. He is also president of Praise Communications LLC that owns and operates WTUA-FM. He began his radio career in 1981 in Charleston as a part-time announcer at WWWZ-FM. Snipe made the switch from on-air to sales early in his career and spent three years in Charleston and 10 years at a Columbia radio station in sales and as general sales manager. He launched Glory Communications in 1992 and signed WFMV on air a year later.

His work as a community leader is equally impressive. He received the 1999 BB&T Trail Blazer Award, the Urban League's 2000 John H. Whiteman Award, the 2000 NBPC Martha Jean Steinberg Entrepreneur of the Year Award, and serves on the Board of Directors of First Community Bank. Snipe has been recognized on three occasions by Radio, Inc. magazine as one of the top 35 most influential African Americans in Radio. He also serves on the National Association of Broadcasters Radio Board, the Gospel Heritage Foundation, and the William L. Bonner Bible College. Snipe is a former board member of the Columbia Urban League and past president of the SCBA.

He is married to the former Mary Landers of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, and they are proud parents of three children, Stevie, Anitra, and Alexis, and have nine grandchildren.





# 2007

**BELLSOUTH®**

## South Carolina African American History Calendar

Learn more about the people featured in this calendar at [www.scafricanamerican.com](http://www.scafricanamerican.com)

# July

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 Carl Lewis, athlete, was born in 1961.	2 Civil Rights Act of 1964 signed. Thurgood Marshall was born in 1908.	3 First African American baseball player in the major leagues, Jackie Robinson, was named to Baseball Hall of Fame in 1962.	4 Independence Day Tuskegee Institute established in 1881.	5 Arthur Ashe won the men's Wimbledon singles championship in 1975.	6 Althea Gibson won Wimbledon in 1957.	7 Margaret Walker, writer, was born in 1915.
8 Venus Williams wins Wimbledon in 2000.	9 Francis L. Cardozo installed as S.C.'s Secretary of State in 1868.	10 Mary McLeod Bethune, educator, was born in 1875.	11 Civil rights activist W.E.B. DuBois founded the Niagara Movement in 1905.	12 Bill Cosby, entertainer, was born in 1937.	13 Continental Congress excluded slavery from Northwest Territory in 1787.	14 George Washington Carver National Monument dedicated in Joplin, MO in 1951.
15 Pompey Lamb, noted spy, aids the American Revolutionary War effort, 1779.	16 V. A. Johnson, first Black female to argue before the U.S. Supreme Court, was born in 1882.	17 Billie Holliday, singer, died in 1959.	18 Lemuel Hayes, first Black Congregationalist minister, was born in 1753.	19 Patricia R. Harris named Secretary of Health, Education and Welfare in 1979.	20 First U.S. victory in Korea was won by African American troops in the 24th Infantry Regiment, in 1950.	21 The 14th Amendment was ratified in 1868.
22 Abraham Lincoln read the first draft of the Emancipation Proclamation to his cabinet in 1861.	23 Louis Tompkins Wright, physician, was born in 1924.	24 Mary Church Terrell, educator, died in 1954.	25 Garrett T. Morgan, inventor of the gas mask, rescued six people from a gas-filled tunnel in Cleveland, Ohio, in 1916.	26 President Truman banned discrimination in the armed services in 1948.	27 Inventor A.P. Abourne was awarded patent for refining coconut oil in 1880.	28 The 14th Amendment was adopted in 1868.
29 The first National Convention of Black Women was held in Boston in 1895.	30 Adam Clayton Powell Jr., activist and politician, was elected congressman from Harlem in 1945.	31 Whitney Young, an executive director of the National Urban League, was born in 1921.				



# Henry N. Tisdale, Ph. D.

## Henry N. Tisdale, Ph.D.

*"In a little more than a decade, this high energy president has led Claflin University to the "Top Tier" and "Top Ten" national ranking among comprehensive baccalaureate granting institutions in the South."*

Dr. Henry N. Tisdale, a Kingstree, South Carolina native and 1965 Magna Cum Laude graduate of Claflin University, needed only a few years after being named his Alma Mater's eighth president in 1994 to realize his vision. Claflin University, poised to become a premier liberal arts institution in the nation, has earned a "Top Tier" and "Best Value" ranking among comprehensive baccalaureate granting institutions in the South, according to U.S. News & World Report's 2007 *Guidebook to America's Best Colleges and Universities*. For three consecutive years (2005-2007), Claflin ranked higher than all Comprehensive Colleges in South Carolina and was cited for its impressive graduation and retention rates.

He prefers to be known as a reserved and dedicated servant leader. But as a high energy president, Dr. Tisdale has accomplished in a short while what many university presidents fail to achieve in decades—a national ranking in academics and a record of accomplishment in higher education that is reflected in the university's impressive statistics. The transformation of the campus also includes a revitalization of the physical plant with award-winning new and renovated buildings and entrances.

Dr. Tisdale began his career in higher education after receiving the Ph.D. and M.A. in Mathematics from Dartmouth College, a M.Ed. in Mathematics from Temple University, and a B.S. in Mathematics from Claflin. Prior to assuming the presidency at Claflin, he served as Senior Vice President and Chief Academic Officer at Delaware State University. He is active in a number of community and civic organizations, including serving as a member of the board of Directors, Orangeburg-Calhoun Community Foundation, President of the University Senate of the United Methodist Church, member of the United Negro College Fund, Council of Independent Colleges, National Association of Schools and Colleges of the United Methodist Church, Claflin University International Alumni Association, Commission on Colleges, Southern Association of Colleges and Schools, Sigma Pi Phi Fraternity, Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, the Orangeburg Rotary Club, the Association of Governing Boards of Universities and Colleges, and Trinity United Methodist Church.

He and his wife Alice Carson Tisdale are the parents of two children, Danica Camille and Brandon Keith.





# 2007

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# September

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						<b>1</b> General Daniel "Chappie" James Jr. named Commander-in-Chief of North American Air Defense Command in 1975.
<b>2</b> Frank Robinson, professional baseball player, named MVP of the American League, 1966.	<b>3</b> <b>Labor Day</b> Charles Houston, NAACP leader, was born in 1895.	<b>4</b> Louis Latimer, inventor and engineer, was born in 1848.	<b>5</b> George Washington Murray was elected to Congress from South Carolina in 1895.	<b>6</b> The National Black Convention met in Cleveland in 1848.	<b>7</b> Integration in public schools began in Washington, D.C. and Baltimore in 1954.	<b>8</b> <b>Ascension Day</b> Althea Gibson became the first African American athlete to win a U.S. national tennis championship in 1957.
<b>9</b> Carter G. Woodson founded the Association for the Study of Negro Life and History in 1915.	<b>10</b> Mordecai Johnson, first Black president of Howard University, died in 1976.	<b>11</b> "Duke" Ellington won Spingarn Medal for his musical achievements in 1959.	<b>12</b> <b>Rosh Hashanan begins at sunset</b> Jackie Robinson, first Black baseball player in the major leagues, was named National League Rookie of the Year in 1947.	<b>13</b> Alain L. Locke, philosopher and first Black Rhodes Scholar, was born in 1886.	<b>14</b> U.S. Cabinet member Constance Baker Motley was born in 1921.	<b>15</b> Dr. Mae Jemison became first African American female astronaut in space in 1992.
<b>16</b> Claude A. Barnett, founder of the Associated Negro Press, was born in 1889.	<b>17</b> United States Constitution signed in 1787.	<b>18</b> Booker T. Washington delivered "Atlanta Compromise" address in 1895.	<b>19</b> Atlanta University was founded in 1865.	<b>20</b> First episode of 'The Cosby Show' aired in 1984.	<b>21</b> <b>Yom Kippur begins at sunset</b> F.W. Leslie, inventor, patented the envelope seal in 1891.	<b>22</b> Ralph Bunch awarded Nobel Peace Prize in 1950.
<b>23</b> <b>First Day of Autumn</b> John Coltrane, innovative and famed jazz musician, was born in 1926.	<b>24</b> Nine African American students integrated Little Rock High School in 1957.	<b>25</b> Barbara W. Hancock became the first African American woman named a White House fellow, 1974.	<b>26</b> Bessie Smith, blues singer, died in 1937.	<b>27</b> 'Memphis Blues' published in 1912.	<b>28</b> 'Appeal to the Colored Citizens of the World' published in 1929.	<b>29</b> Hugh Mulzac, first African American captain of a U.S. merchant ship, launched with the 'Booker T. Washington' in 1942.
<b>30</b> Johnny Mathis, singer, was born in 1935.						



## Louis L. Waring, Jr.

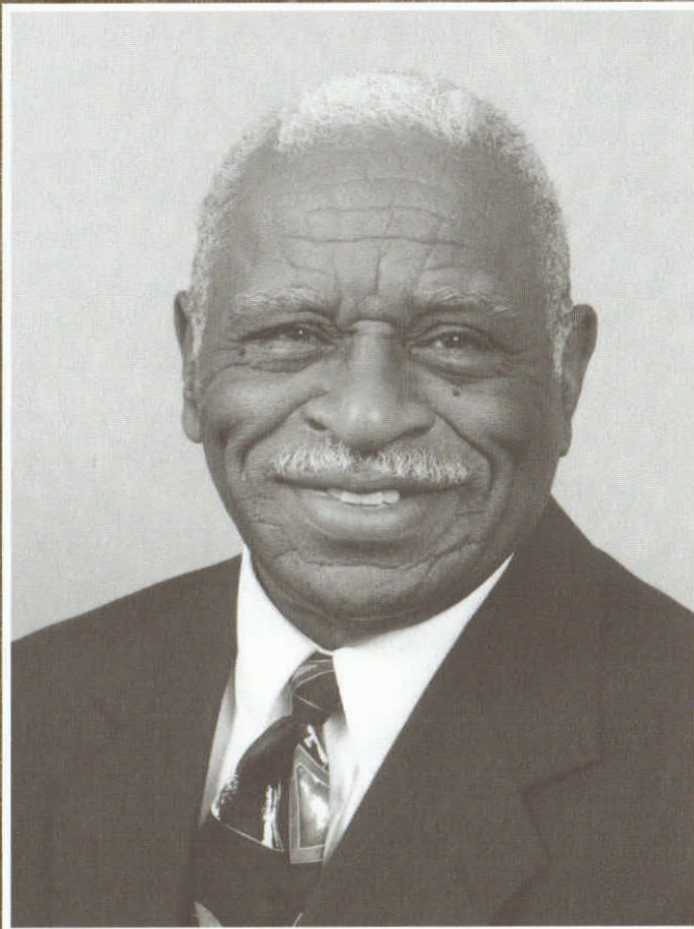
*"Through his belief in putting God first, integrity, family values and teamwork, Waring's service to his country and dedication to improving the lives of others through education, peaceful protest and participation in city government has yielded huge dividends."*

A US Navy World War II veteran who volunteered at the age of 14, Louis L. Waring, Jr. became the first African American general foreman of the Rigger Shop in the Charleston Naval Shipyard's history. As a life member of the NAACP Waring participated in numerous protests during the heat of the Civil Rights Movement in the 1960's and 1970's. He and his wife Seloris were actively involved in the education of their children and protested the inequities in the school system and in the workplace. Waring was elected to serve as the President of the First Congressional District of the SC Colored Parent Teacher's Association (PTA). He later served a brief term as President of the SC Congress of the Colored PTA just prior to the integration of schools in South Carolina. At this period in our country's history Waring filed a lawsuit against the Shipyard for discrimination in promotion practices and against local bowling alleys that would not admit blacks. He won both lawsuits. After retirement from the Shipyard in 1982 he pursued a business career as a real estate developer before establishing a political career in the early 1990's. He won a seat on the St. Andrew's Public Service District Commission in 1990 and later served as chairman.

Motivated by his concern for all the citizens of Charleston, and particularly those in St. Andrews District 7, West of the Ashley River where he was born and raised, Waring ran for City Council in 1993. He is currently serving his third full term as councilman for District 7 and second term as Mayor Pro Tempore for the City of Charleston. During his tenure Waring spearheaded efforts to improve city infrastructure and to improve the safety of neighborhoods in his district. He has served on and chaired numerous council committees and is currently chairman of the Ways and Means Committee and is the City's representative on the Public Works Commission. As Ways and Means chair, he supported fiscal policies that led to Charleston having the best credit rating of any city in South Carolina. He also helped to win approval in 2003 of the largest affordable housing development for senior citizens West of the Ashley---a \$7 million investment.

His community service includes the Board of Directors for the Charleston NAACP, Salvation Army, Gibbes Museum of Art, Joint Highway 61 Commission, the St. Andrews Park & Playground Commission and the Citizens Committee Credit Union. He became the first African American chairman of the board of the Charleston County Department of Social Services. He served as president of the St. Andrews Improvement and Awareness Organization, and chairman of the St. Andrews Park & Playground Commission.

Waring and his wife, the late Seloris Evelyn Collins, have five children, 13 grand children and 15 great-grand children.





# 2007

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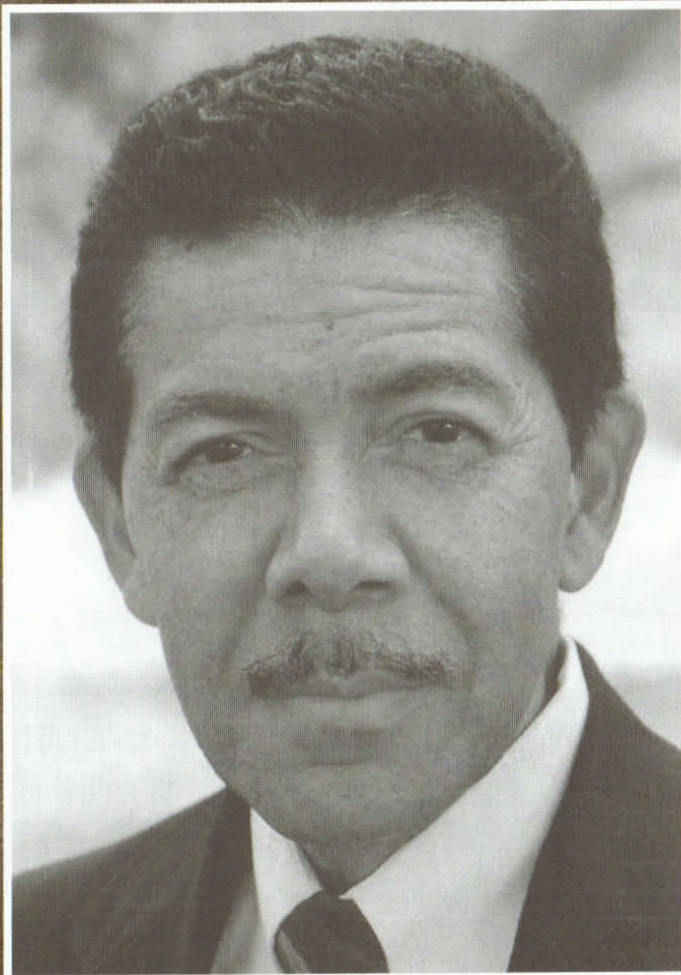
*South Carolina*  
**African  
American**  
*History Calendar*

Learn more about the people featured in this calendar at [www.scafricanamerican.com](http://www.scafricanamerican.com)

# October

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 Colin Powell was appointed first African American chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff in 1989.	2 Thurgood Marshall was sworn in, becoming the first African American Supreme Court Justice in 1967.	3 Nat King Cole was the first Black performer to host his own television show in 1956.	4 National Black Convention met in Syracuse, N.Y. in 1864.	5 Congresswoman Yvonne Burke was born in 1932.	6 Fisk Jubilee Singers began national tour in 1871.
7 Toni Morrison became first African American to win Nobel Prize in literature.	8 <b>Columbus Day</b> Jesse Jackson was born in 1941.	9 O.B. Clare patented the rail trestle in 1888.	10 Singer Ben Vereen was born in 1946.	11 A. Miles patented the elevator in 1887.	12 Richard ("Dick") Gregory was born in 1932.	13 Arna W. Bontemps, noted poet, was born in 1902.
14 Martin Luther King, Jr. awarded Nobel Peace Prize in 1964.	15 Clarence Thomas confirmed to the U.S. Supreme Court in 1992.	16 John Brown led attack on Harper's Ferry in 1859.	17 Capital Savings Bank opened in Washington, D.C. in 1888.	18 Novelist Terry McMillan was born in 1951.	19 The U.S. Navy was opened to African American women in 1944.	20 John Merrick organized North Carolina Mutual Life Insurance Company in 1898.
21 "Dizzy" Gillespie was born in Cheraw, S.C. in 1917.	22 Clarence S. Green became the first African American certified in neurological surgery.	23 The NAACP petitioned the United Nations about racial injustice in 1947.	24 Jackie Robinson died in 1972.	25 Benjamin O. Davis became the first African American general in the U.S. Army in 1940.	26 Inventor T. Marshall patented the fire extinguisher in 1872.	27 D. B. Downing, inventor, patented his street letter box in 1891.
28 Founder of The Underground Railroad, Levi Coffin, was born in 1798.	29 The Supreme Court ordered end to segregation in schools "at once" in 1969.	30 Richard Arrington was elected the first Black mayor of Birmingham, Ala., in 1979.	31 Halloween Ethel Waters, actress and singer, was born in 1900.			





## Cecil J. Williams

*"Cecil J. Williams' photographic images of the civil rights movement provided one of the most comprehensive collections of the era. His photographs have been published in 126 books, 17 newspapers and featured in 11 television documentaries."*

Cecil J. Williams acquired a hand-me-down camera when he was nine, and by age 15 was working as a professional and freelance photographer for such publications as *Jet*, the *Afro-American*, and the *Pittsburgh Courier*, and a stringer for the Associated Press, and today is lauded as one of the country's most accomplished visual artists. He has worked as a professional photographer, author and publisher of three books, and designer/architect of three residences, but he is most well known as the chronicler of the civil rights era.

His photographs are considered the most comprehensive collection of the civil rights era and have been featured in 126 books, 17 newspapers, and 11 television documentaries. In 1995, Mercer University Press published "Freedom and Justice," Williams' photographic documentary of the Civil Rights Movement. The photographs were exhibited at the University of South Carolina, Furman University, Rice Museum in Georgetown, Claflin University, Furman University, Stanback Museum in Orangeburg, Museum of the New South in Charlotte, and McKissick Museum, Columbia. In 1996 he was featured as one of four civil rights photographers in a screening of "Exposures of a Movement," at Central Piedmont Community College, Charlotte, North Carolina.

Other professional accomplishments in the arts include being selected by the South Carolina Arts Commission as an Artist-in-Residence at W. A. Perry Middle School in Columbia in 1995, a 1994 Commendation by the South Carolina General Assembly for a photographic exhibit, "Quiet Heroes," official yearbook photographer for South Carolina State University, Claflin University, the South Carolina NAACP, and the National Conference of Black Mayors. Williams' credits these experiences with his ability to amass a wealth of historical documentation and political and social experiences.

Williams received the Presidential Citation from Dr. Henry N. Tisdale, president of Claflin University, for outstanding contributions to the college and community. He also received the Freedom Fighter Award, presented by the Orangeburg branch of the NAACP, and the 2005 Martin Luther King, Jr. Unity Breakfast Community Service Awards.

He is married to Barbara Johnson Williams, a teacher at Orangeburg-Wilkinson High School.



# 2007

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## South Carolina African American History Calendar

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# November

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1  First issue of Ebony published in 1945. First issue of Crisis published in 1910.	2  President Ronald Reagan signed law designating the third Monday in January Martin Luther King Jr. Day in 1983.	3  South Carolina State College was established in 1896.
4  <b>Daylight Savings Time Ends</b>  T. Elkins patented the refrigerating apparatus in 1879.	5  Walter E. Washington elected Mayor of Washington, D.C. in 1974.	6  Absalom Jones, minister, was born in 1746.	7  David Dinkins elected first Black Mayor of New York City in 1989.	8  Edward W. Brooke was elected first Black U.S. Senator (R- Mass.) in 85 years in 1966.	9  Benjamin Banneker, surveyor, was born in 1731.	10  Andrew Hatcher was named associate press secretary to President John F. Kennedy, becoming the first Black press secretary in 1960.
11  <b>Veteran's Day</b>  Nat Turner, leader of a Virginia slave revolt, was hanged in 1831.	12  In 1775, General George Washington issued an order, later rescinded, which forbade recruiting officers to enlist Blacks.	13  Dwight Gooden won baseball's Cy Young Award in 1985.	14  Booker T. Washington died in 1915.	15  In 1979, the Nobel Prize in economics was awarded to Professor Arthur Lewis of Princeton.	16  "Father of the Blues," W.C. Handy, was born in Florence, Ala. in 1873.	17  Omega Psi Phi was founded on the campus of Howard University in 1911.
18  Abolitionist and orator Sojourner Truth was born in 1787.	19  Roy Campanella was named the National League MVP for the second time in 1953.	20  Garrett T. Morgan patented the traffic signal in 1923.	21  Shaw University was founded in 1865.	22  <b>Thanksgiving</b>  Alrutheus A. Taylor, teacher and historian, was born in 1893.	23  J.L. Love put patents on the pencil sharpener in 1897.	24  Scott Joplin, composer, born in 1868.
25  Luther "Bill" Robinson, dancer, died in 1949.	26  Sojourner Truth, evangelist, died in 1883.	27  Richard Wright, author, died in 1960.	28  Ernie Davis became the first African American to win the Heisman Trophy in 1961.	29  Congressman Adam Clayton Powell, Jr. was born in 1908.	30  Congresswoman Shirley Chisholm was born in 1924.	



# Lee Thompson Young

*"Lee Young's performance in "A Night of Stars and Dreams" at 10 years old, proved prophetic; twelve years later he is an accomplished performing artist and honors graduate of the University of Southern California School of Cinema Television."*

Lee Thompson Young is known by some as "Jett Jackson" from the Disney Channel children's show, "The Famous Jett Jackson," others as "Comer" from the football movie, "Friday Night Lights," and still others as Akeelah's big brother in the popular spelling bee movie, "Akeelah and the Bee."

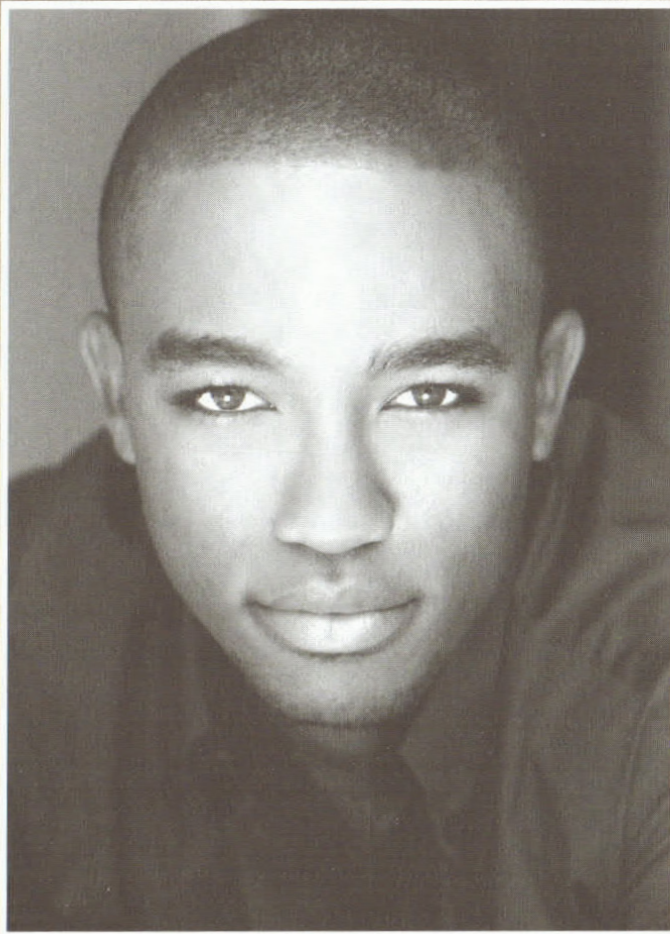
The Columbia, South Carolina native received early training in acting at the Workshop Theater, University of South Carolina, Benedict College, Richland County Public Library, Francis Burns United Methodist Church, the Black Family Summit, Big Brothers Big Sisters of Greater Columbia, Phyllis Wheatley Repertoire Theater, and Revelations/Oasis Talent Agency.

He was named Irmo Middle School Student of the Year and won the Optimist Club Oratorical Scholarship before moving with his mom to New York in 1996, to pursue his dream of becoming a professional actor.

The first major role he landed after several auditions was a national McDonald's commercial, which was followed by a Robitussin commercial that landed him the job as "Jett Jackson," the leading role in the Disney series that launched his career. Even as he was being recognized as a dedicated and committed actor, Young stayed focus on his academics and was an honors student in the Professional Children's School, a private school for the arts. He later attended the New York City High School for the Performing Arts and graduated with honors in 2001 with a full scholarship to attend the University of Southern California School (USC) of Cinema Television. He graduated Magna Cum Laude with a B.A. in Film & Television Production in 2005.

As a college student Lee maintained his honor roll status while also developing his career. He appeared as a guest star in several television shows including "Jake 2.00," "Kevin Hill," "The Guardian," and "Philly." He also had major roles in the television movie, "Redemption." The USC African American Honor Society, the Trustee Scholars Program, and Kappa Alpha Psi, selecting him as National Student of the Year, recognized him for high academic achievement.

Young also landed a major role on "South Beach," a UPN television series, was a guest star on "Smallville," and was named "best guest star" by online fans. Having already accomplished the goals he set for himself at age 10, when he wrote a dream proclamation for a Big Brothers Big Sisters stage production, "A Night of Stars and Dreams," Young is busy crafting new dreams and developing new projects with friends and colleagues in Santa Monica, California where he now lives. He is the son of Velma Love and Tommy Scott Young.





# 2007

**BELLSOUTH®**

## South Carolina African American History Calendar

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# December

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1  Rosa Parks refused to give up her seat on a public bus in 1955.
2  Historian Charles Wesley was born in 1891.	3  First issue of North Star newspaper published in 1847.	4  American Anti-Slavery Society organized in 1833.	5 <b>Hanukkah begins at Sunset</b>  Mary McLeod Bethune, educator, founded National Council of Negro Women, 1935.	6  In 1971 Lewis Franklin Powell was confirmed as U.S. Supreme Court justice.	7  Lester Granger was named executive director of the National Urban League in 1941.	8  Entertainer Sammy Davis Jr. was born in 1925.
9  Entertainer Redd Foxx was born in 1925.	10  Ralph J. Bunche becomes the first Black person awarded a Nobel Peace Prize in 1950.	11  P.B.S. Pinchback became the first African American governor of an American state, Louisiana, in 1872.	12  Joseph H. Rainey (S.C.) first African American elected to Congress in 1870.	13  First Black women complete officer training for the WAVES, 1944.	14  Congressman John Langston was born in 1829.	15  Maggie Lena Walker, banker, died in 1934.
16  Andrew Young of Georgia named ambassador and chief delegate to the United Nations in 1976.	17  Noble Sissle, lyricist and bandleader, died in 1975.	18  The 13th Amendment was ratified in 1865.	19  Carter G. Woodson, historian, was born in 1875.	20  South Carolina seceded from the Union in 1860.	21  Motown Records established in 1959 by Berry Gordy Jr.	22 <b>First Day of Winter</b>  Historian, and author of Destruction of Black Civilization, Dr. Chancellor Williams was born in 1898.
23  Alice H. Parker patented the gas heating furnace in 1919.	24  Irwin C. Mollison first African American judge of the Customs Court was born in 1898.	25 <b>Christmas Day</b>  In 1971 Rev. Jesse Jackson organized Operation PUSH (People United to Save Humanity).	26 <b>Kwanzaa Begins</b>  In 1924, DeFord Bailey, Sr. became the first African American to perform on the Grand Ole Opry.	27  Pioneer of blood plasma research, Dr. Charles Richard Drew, established a blood bank in New York City in 1941.	28  Earl "Fatha" Hines, famed jazz musician and father of modern jazz piano, was born in 1905.	29  Thomas Bradley was born in 1917.
30  Blues composer and singer Bo Diddley was born in 1928.	31 <b>New Year's Eve</b>  Odetta Felious Gordon, folk singer and activist, was born in 1930.					